

IN THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A seamed, conformable belt comprising:
a substrate having first and second opposing substantially planar
5 surfaces, a first end, and a second end, wherein the first end and the second end of
the substrate form a first seam, and
an elastomeric layer having a first end and a second end, wherein
the elastomeric layer is adjacent and in contact with the first surface of the
substrate and wherein the first end and the second end of the elastomeric layer
10 form a second, detachable substantially planar seam.
2. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 1 wherein
the first seam and the second, detachable substantially planar seam are
interlocking seams.
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3. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 2 wherein
the interlocking seams include a kerf.
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4. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 2 wherein
the interlocking seams comprise nodes of from about 0.6 mm to about 3 mm in
diameter.
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5. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 2 wherein
the interlocking seams comprise from about 10 to about 20 nodes per inch along
the seams.
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6. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 1 wherein
the first seam is bonded.
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7. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 1 wherein
the seamed, conformable belt has a modulus of elasticity of from about 75 PSI to
about 3000 PSI.

8. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 1 wherein
the seamed, conformable belt has a thickness of from about 0.5 mm to about 5
mm.

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9. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 1 wherein
the elastomeric layer has a thickness of from about 0.25 mm to about 4.75 mm.

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10. A seamed, conformable belt comprising:

a substrate having first and second opposing substantially planar
surfaces, a first end, and a second end, wherein the first end of the substrate is
bonded to the second end of the substrate to form a first seam, and

an elastomeric layer having a first end and a second end, wherein
the elastomeric layer is adjacent and in contact with the first surface of the
substrate and wherein the first end of the elastomeric layer is bonded to the second
end of the elastomeric layer to form a second substantially planar seam.

11. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 10
wherein the first seam and the second substantially planar seam are interlocking
seams.

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12. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 10
wherein the seamed, conformable belt has a modulus of elasticity of from about
75 PSI to about 3000 PSI.

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13. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 10
wherein the seamed, conformable belt has a thickness of from about 0.5 mm to
about 5 mm.

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14. The seamed, conformable belt according to claim 10
wherein the elastomeric layer has a thickness of from about 0.25 mm to about 4.75
mm.

TECHNICAL DRAWING

15. A method for forming a seamed, conformable belt comprising:

providing a substrate having first and second opposing substantially planar surfaces, a first end, and a second end;

5 coating the first surface of the substrate with an elastomeric layer having a first end and a second end;

positioning the first end and the second end of the substrate to form a first seam; and

10 positioning the first end and the second end of the elastomeric layer to form a second, detachable substantially planar seam.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein the first seam and the second, detachable substantially planar seam are interlocking seams.

15 17. The method according to claim 16 wherein the interlocking seams include a kerf.

18. The method according to claim 16 wherein the interlocking seams comprise nodes of from about 0.6 mm to about 3 mm in diameter.

20 19. The method according to claim 16 wherein the interlocking seams comprise from about 10 to about 20 nodes per inch along the seams.

25 20. The method according to claim 15 wherein the first seam is bonded.

21. The method according to claim 15 wherein the seamed, conformable belt has a modulus of elasticity of from about 75 PSI to about 3000 PSI.

30 22. The method according to claim 15 wherein the seamed, conformable belt has a thickness of from about 0.5 mm to about 5 mm.

23. The method according to claim 15 wherein the elastomeric layer has a thickness of from about 0.25 mm to about 4.75 mm.